



## Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

A Regular Meeting of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at the Tualatin Valley Water District Headquarters, 1850 SW 170th Avenue, Beaverton, Oregon. Executive Session 5:45 pm; Regular Meeting 6:00 pm.

Present:

Alfredo Moreno	President/Director
Barbie Minor	Secretary/Director
Tya Ping	Secretary Pro-Tempore/Director
Miles Palacios	Director
Doug Menke	General Manager

Absent:

Felicita Monteblanco	Director
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### Agenda Item #1 – Executive Session (A) Land

President Alfredo Moreno called executive session to order to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions. Executive Session is held under authority of ORS 192.660(2)(e).

President Moreno noted that the news media and designated staff may attend executive session. Representatives of the news media were directed not to disclose information discussed during executive session. No final action or final decision may be made in executive session.

### Agenda Item #2 – Call Regular Meeting to Order

A Regular Meeting of the Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District Board of Directors was called to order by President Alfredo Moreno on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

### Agenda Item #3 – Action Resulting from Executive Session

There was no action resulting from Executive Session.

### Agenda Item #4 – Proclamations

#### A. National Arab American Heritage Month

The board members read into the record a proclamation declaring April as National Arab American Heritage Month.

President Moreno wished the Muslim community a happy Eid al-Fitr and expressed appreciation for the contributions of the Arab American community. He acknowledged the impact international conflict and violence has on our local community members, noting that this particular time in history has resulted in much pain, anger and sadness and that he is grateful for the role THPRD has as a convener and partner of the Arab American community in Beaverton and the role parks and recreation plays in community building and uplifting. He provided a brief overview of some of the activities and events THPRD is hosting in honor of National Arab American Heritage Month.

#### B. National Autism Awareness Month

The board members read into the record a proclamation declaring April as National Autism Awareness Month.

President Moreno provided a brief overview of some of the activities and events THPRD is hosting in honor of National Autism Awareness Month.

**C. National Volunteer Month**

The board members read into the record a proclamation declaring April as National Volunteer Month.

President Moreno noted that later this evening the district’s Volunteer of the Year award will be announced, and expressed gratitude to all of the district’s volunteers for the roles they play in making this such an outstanding district. He provided a brief overview of some of the activities and events THPRD is hosting in honor of National Volunteer Month.

**Agenda Item #5 – Audience Time**

There was no public testimony received during Audience Time.

**Agenda Item #6 – Board Time**

**A. Committee Liaisons Updates**

Miles Palacios provided the following updates and comments during board time:

- ✓ Looking forward to next week’s Joint Advisory Committees meeting and hopes to meet some of the committees’ new members in person.
- ✓ Election day for the district’s operating levy is coming up on May 21 and he is excited about getting out into the community to talk about the opportunity to maintain services.
- ✓ Met with Jared Isaksen, Finance director, to prepare for the upcoming budget committee work session taking place next week and is looking forward to hearing the committee members’ perspectives.

Barbie Minor provided the following updates and comments during board time:

- ✓ Attended an event hosted by Active Children Portland centered around gender-expansive sports inclusion and is inspired to continue to ensure that THPRD is welcoming and inclusive for all, including our trans and nonbinary youth and adults.
- ✓ Over the past few weeks, she has been welcomed into student led Iftar events and seeing the activism from these students and their conviction, joy, understanding and community has been wonderful to experience, but at the same time heartbreaking due to current international events. She spoke out in November about the conflict happening in Palestine, noting that during this month honoring National Arab American Heritage, it would be disingenuous of her not to continue to elevate the voices of those in our community who are suffering.

**Agenda Item #7 – Consent Agenda**

**Tya Ping moved that the board of directors approve consent agenda items (A) Minutes of March 13, 2024 Regular Board Meeting, (B) Resolution Authorizing Application to Metro 2024 Nature in Neighborhoods Capital Grants Program for Pointer Road Neighborhood Park, (C) Resolution Authorizing Application to Metro 2024 Nature in Neighborhoods Capital Grants Program for Heckman Lane Neighborhood Park, and (D) Metro Policy Advisory Committee Representative Nomination. Miles Palacios seconded the motion. Roll call proceeded as follows:**

<b>Barbie Minor</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Miles Palacios</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Tya Ping</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Alfredo Moreno</b>	<b>Yes</b>

**The motion was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.**

**Agenda Item #8 – Unfinished Business**

**A. Cooper Mountain Community Plan Update**

Holly Thompson, Communications director, introduced Mark Pierce, Safety Services manager, to present an update on the district’s emergency management initiatives and provided comments

regarding the growth of the district's involvement in this area as a result of the visioning and support received from the board through their investment in Safety Services. Holly described how it became very clear through the pandemic, wildfires, and extreme weather events of recent years the vital role THPRD plays in providing safe spaces for the community and gave a brief overview of the district's work with Washington County to become eligible for Federal Emergency Management Agency funding to enhance our facilities for resiliency, which has already resulted in a nearly \$1 million grant. Holly commended Mark for his role in these efforts.

Mark provided a detailed overview of the district's emergency management efforts via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, and which included information on the following topic areas:

- Ongoing Initiatives
  - Regional Partnerships
  - Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan
  - THPRD Emergency Response Plans
- Disaster Preparedness and Response
  - Grant Funding Status
- New Initiatives
  - Shelter Supplies
  - 2024 State-wide Exercise
  - District Planning Alignment

Mark offered to answer any questions the board may have.

Barbie Minor shared appreciation for the thoughtfulness that has gone into the district's emergency management efforts in taking into consideration the other district plans in place and is impressed that the results are already being seen. She congratulated staff on a job well done.

Tya Ping stated that she is in awe of this work, noting that these efforts exemplify how essential and relevant THPRD is to our community. Creating safe spaces resonates with the public and when there is a state of emergency, people will know that THPRD is a safe place to go. She described an idea around holding mini drills by welcoming the community on shelter days, such as during inclement weather, and hosting programming that people could participate in while sheltering indoors as a way to build community.

- ✓ Holly replied that this is a great idea, noting that district staff recently started discussions around having activities available during shelter activations, as well as how the city and county could be involved and strengthening those partnerships.

President Moreno expressed gratitude to district staff for their hard work on these efforts, noting that it reaffirms that THPRD is an essential part of the community infrastructure.

## **B. Legislative Update**

Aisha Panas, deputy general manager, and Kylie Grunow, state legislative consultant for the district, provided a recap of the 2024 legislative session via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, and which included information on the following topic areas:

- 2024 Legislative Priorities
  - Position statements guide advocacy efforts
  - Federal and state legislative platforms
- Federal Priorities
  - Active Transportation
  - Climate Adaptation & Community Resiliency
  - Community Health & Wellness
  - Natural Resource Conservation
  - Social Equity

- State Priorities
  - Climate Adaptation & Community Resiliency
  - Equitable Access to Parks & Recreation
  - Local Agency Control & Authority
  - State Funding for Parks, Recreation & Trails
  - System Development Charges
- Federal Activities
  - Earmarks
  - Special District Bill
- State Legislature Session Update
  - End of Session Report
  - THPRD Notable Bills
  - What's Next?
- Bills of Note
  - SB 1576 – Recreational Immunity
  - HB 4082 – Summer Learning Funding
  - HB 5701 – Partial Funding of Rep. Helm's Wildlife Package
    - HB 4148 had a total ask of \$10 million and died in Ways & Means
- Legislative Calendar
- Next Steps
  - Update Legislative Platform as necessary
  - Determine legislative communications for interim
  - Determine any policy or funding asks for 2025 session
    - Bill drafts due 9/27
    - State agencies developing budgets now
    - Build and conduct outreach strategy based on asks
  - 2025 THPRD Lobby Day
    - End of February/Early March

Aisha described constituents' interest in revisiting Oregon's tax structure that has come up during conversations about the district's upcoming operating levy request and the possibility for including this in the district's state priorities; Kylie added that this is a topic of interest across all areas of Oregon government. They offered to answer any questions the board may have.

President Moreno thanked Aisha and Kylie for the informative presentation and requested that they keep the board informed in terms of how they can support these efforts, noting that the more the board can learn about how to get activated, the better for the district.

Miles noted that he is excited to see how the federal work around special districts progresses, noting that special districts are a valid form of government that should be eligible for recognition. He is also looking forward to more discussion about Oregon tax reform and is interested to see how THPRD can partner on this effort with our colleagues across the county.

- ✓ Aisha recognized Planning & Development Manager Gery Keck's involvement on the National Special Districts Collation and their work on the federal special district bill.

### **C. General Manager's Report**

The following presentations were provided as listed within the General Manager's Report included in the board of directors' information packet:

- Local Option Levy Update
  - Holly Thompson, Communications director, provided an update on the public information and outreach efforts underway for the district's local option levy that will be before voters in May 2024 via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record.

- Volunteer Services
  - Melissa Marcum, Volunteer Services specialist, provided an update spotlighting the district's youth leadership programs via a PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was entered into the record, and announced the Volunteer of the Year Award winner. Dean Bridges is this year's honoree for his volunteer service to the district within our nature education programs.

Doug and the presenters offered to answer any questions the board may have.

#### Local Option Levy Update

Tya Ping asked for the best way to approach someone with information about the levy.

- ✓ Holly provided a couple of tips, like simply approaching someone with a smile and asking if you can give them the levy informational flyer and offer to answer any questions.

#### Volunteer Services

Tya Ping thanked Dean for being such a great role model for the community and its youth, adding that for people to donate their time and effort is a wonderful thing for which the district is very appreciative.

#### **Agenda Item #9 – Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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Alfredo Moreno, President

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Barbie Minor, Secretary

Recording Secretary,  
Jessica Collins